

REMARKS

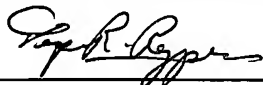
In an Office Action dated November 14, 2005, claims 1-28 were rejected, and claims 2, 3, 24 and 25 were held allowable. Applicant sincerely appreciates the indicated allowability of claims 2, 3, 24 and 25. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and allowance of the claims, as amended.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as being indefinite. The indicated occurrence of indefiniteness has been corrected by amendment above. In view thereof, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §112 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-23 and 26-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Argoitia et al. Claims 2, 3, 24 and 25 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but held allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response thereto, all of the elements of claim 2 have been incorporated into claim 1, and all of the elements of claim 24 have been incorporated into claims 20, 26 and 27. Accordingly, it is believed that claims 1, 20, 26 and 27 are allowable. Additionally, all of the remaining claims have been made dependent on or continued to be dependent on the allowable claims indicated above. Furthermore, new claims 29, 30 and 31 ultimately depend on allowable claim 1. In view of the above amendments and remarks, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action are earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
George R. Repper
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 31,414
ROTHWELL, FIGG, ERNST & MANBECK, P.C.
Suite 800, 1425 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 783-6040